REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-19, and 22--25 remain in the application. Claims 2, 20 and 21 were cancelled by the Dec. 15, 2003 amendment. Allowance of claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 14, 15, 18, 19, 22 and 23 is noted.

A. Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.130.

As suggested in the Office Action, this response is accompanied by a declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.130 that establishes common ownership of the present application with the Nelson et al. reference. Further, the declaration establishes that, to the extent the Nelson et al. reference teaches any subject matter now claimed, that subject matter was invented by common inventor Jeffrey Nelson. As set out in MPEP 718, although the factual assertions have been verified with the inventors of this application, the 1.130 declaration is signed by the attorney of record.

B. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Claims 1, 6, 11-13 and 24-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 based upon Nelson et al. in view of Kalkunte et al. Claims 3, 7-8 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 based upon Nelson et al. in view of Kalkunte et al. and further in view of Azizoglu et al. These rejections are believed to be moot in view of the removal of the Nelson reference.
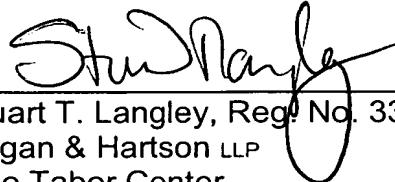
C. Conclusion.

In view of all of the above, claims 1, 3-19 and 23-25 are now believed to be allowable and the case in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fee is believed to be required by this response. Any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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